

4. Two nurses repeatedly negative to Mantoux 1/100 isolated from tuberculous wards for pre-vaccinal period and found Mantoux 1/100 positive at pre-vaccinal test. No X-ray lesion, or disturbance in health in either case.

The response to the B C G campaign has been very gratifying and in addition to contact cases, there have been numerous enquiries from institutions, factories and schools. It would seem that expansion of the programme will be limited only by our powers to expand.

Two developments most urgently required are increased X-ray facilities and isolation for contacts of active cases during the vaccination period.

The technique of vaccination does not present any obstacle, but I think judgement is required in deciding whom to vaccinate and when to vaccinate them. Moreover, it must always be borne in mind by B C G enthusiasts, that vaccination against tuberculosis is a good servant and a bad master, and that unless the people who are vaccinated are assured that it is only one small factor in the preventive campaign against tuberculosis, it may do more harm than good, by engendering in tuberculous families a feeling of false security.

REVIEW

RECENT ADVANCES IN SOCIAL MEDICINE. By A. C. Stevenson, B.Sc., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, The Queen's University of Belfast. J. & A. Churchill Ltd. 18s.

THIS book is a welcome addition to Churchill's well-known Recent Advances Series. In its 238 pages it deals in nine chapters with "a small group of subjects which appear to be of importance."

The first chapter, on "Measurement of Growth in Children," is a serious attempt to present briefly some aspects of anthropometry, and to assess to what extent the formulæ of Tuxford and others can be used to add or to check clinical findings. The author concludes that "no satisfactory method has been devised whereby states of nutrition can be assessed by anthropometry." In this chapter the meaning of the text is not always clear, e.g., on page 13 it is stated that, according to Tuxford, weight/height ratios increase by age roughly in harmonical progression; a few lines later we are told that height/weight ratios appear to advance in harmonical progression.

A quarter of the book, in two chapters, is devoted to the subject of infant mortality. A careful study of these chapters will well repay the student or the practitioner, and they can be commended in particular to the general practitioner. Indeed, the author has taken a great deal of trouble to collect much useful information and to present it in an attractive form.

Then follow chapters on day nurseries, the unmarried mother, problem families, and school medical inspection, which will readily commend themselves to all students of social medicine.

Chapter VIII, written by Dr. E. A. Cheeseman, Lecturer in Medical Statistics, Queen's University, Belfast, deals clearly with "Some Applications of Statistical Methods." It can readily be understood, even by non-mathematical readers.

The bibliography at the end of the chapters indicates how widely Professor Stevenson has studied the subjects discussed.

It is to be hoped that at no distant date the second edition of this book, in a much enlarged form, will appear, and will contain a similar clear account of a further group of important subjects.

J. B.